

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Grueneberg et al.

Examiner: **CHONG, KIMBERLY**

Art Unit: **1635**

Application No.: **10/574, 416**

Filed: **March 31, 2006**

Title: **Retroviral Vectors for Delivery of
Interfering RNA**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Communication mailed October 5, 2007 in the above-referenced application, Applicants provisionally elect, **with traverse**, Group IV, Claims 2-7, and 9-15, “drawn to a retroviral vector for carrying double stranded RNA into a cell comprising a promoter, a polylinker, and a target gene specific insert comprising dsRNA wherein the retroviral vector is a modified Lentivirus vector, wherein the vector comprises a reporter gene Blasti and wherein the vector is pLenti-U6-Blasti having SEQ ID NO. 8, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.”

Species election is furthermore required under 35 U.S.C. §121 for prosecution on the merits to which the claims should be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. For Claim 2 which are directed to promoter sequences, Applicants provisionally elected a U6 promoter sequence (SEQ ID NO: 7). For Claims 3, 12, and 18, Applicants provisionally elect a polylinker (d) (SEQ ID NO: 4).

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter in this application.

Remarks begin at page 2.